

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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WALTER G. SMITH, EDITOR
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1911.

GIVEN OVER TO SPOILS.

The difference between political methods of doing business and private methods was clearly shown by last night's action of the Board of Supervisors when that body overrode the mayor's veto of the ordinance by which it sought to usurp the appointing power to positions in the road department.

The special object of the ordinance is to get rid of Road Supervisor Wilder and, as Supervisor Murray says, of all the road supervisors, thus enabling that body to replace them as it chooses.

As the Star has pointed out before, Road Supervisor Wilder happens to be a Democrat who builds roads economically and well, without regarding the politics of the labor employed. From a machine point of view, the Board wants a man in his place who will build roads in such a way as to keep Republicans busy at the time, and on hand when wanted to manipulate primaries and carry elections. As to the character of the roads that does not matter. What the machine wants is votes, not durable streets. In fact, a durable street might keep the repair gang off the payroll and give the Democrats a chance and that would never do.

Imagine business men administering a trust in this way. Imagine them hiring more men than they can profitably use and using them as extravagantly as they can, so as to make themselves more popular with the mob; and then putting out a man, or trying to, because he is doing his work in a business-like way. Imagine a condition where the more conscientiously a man works, the greater the danger of his losing a job.

This showing on the part of the Board of Supervisors, which is a clear violation of the campaign promises of the Republican members, ought to impel the responsible Republicans of Honolulu to join with the responsible Democrats when the next campaign begins, and name a responsible ticket. There are enough to do the work, of naming and electing; the same men who, in tacit co-operation, re-elected Fern and Jarrett, and kept Trent in office so long. They could elect a whole board of supervisors if they would and one comparable, in character and experience, to the directorate of any of the large local corporations.

NO BANDITTI WANTED.

The Star hopes that the planters will do nothing now, or at any other time, to encourage the importation of south Italian labor. A study of it on the mainland does not promise well for its peaceful adaptation here, where so much depends upon the docility of field help; for of all the Latins, the south Italian is the most turbulent and vengeful. He is quick to organize his mafias and camorras; he avenges slights with a knife, and the incitement to a labor strike would find less resistance from him than from any other class at work on our plantations.

If the south Italian was a final resort, all this might be tolerated; but Portugal and Spain are still open to us and their labor is the best, excepting that of north Italians, which Hawaii can find in Latin Europe. Why not confine ourselves to it? Why not centralize our efforts there and let Italy alone, the north Italian not being available for reasons already stated?

Furthermore Hawaii has race problems enough. It does not want them all. So far it has done well, except, possibly with its Porto Ricans, who are not very many. It does not have to deal with any black hand influence, any mafia or camorra. With the Latins here the society-forming habit expresses itself in beneficent institutions; with the lazzaroni it reveals itself in organized banditti. Hawaii does not want to add this problem to the others.

THE OLD STORY AGAIN.

It is as the Star surmised, the Advertiser's cable story of General Bixby's report on the destruction of the Maine, was tampered with in a most inexcusable way. The headlines made it appear that the three magazines of the ill-starred battleship exploded "at once," a most important circumstance, if true, as tending to prove that some outside concussion had touched them off. The real dispatch did not bear out the headlines, but a final paragraph, which had every sign of being a library addition, undertook to do so in these terms:

His (Bixby's) report has caused something of a sensation. How did the three magazines of the battleship explode simultaneously? is now asked.

It was plain to anyone who knows the ways of the Associated Press that this paragraph did not come in its service. The Associated Press does not indulge in queries or comments; it merely tells the news. At once the Star challenged the paragraph, which was not borne out by the preceding story of the explosion, but got no reply. As usual, the morning paper would not offer the original dispatch in evidence and so we have had to wait for the press dispatches in the Eastern files, which confirm the Star's conclusion. The real Bixby report does not say that the three magazines exploded "at once," but merely that they "all exploded." One explosion started the others, thus accounting for the two reports which the survivors say they heard.

The Eastern version of the Bixby report tells the story as follows: WASHINGTON, July 5.—The loss of the battleship Maine was caused by the explosion of her three magazines. No such effect as that produced upon the vessel could have been caused by an explosion from without.

Such is the opinion of General William H. Bixby, chief of engineers, United States Army, who has returned from a personal inspection of the work of raising the Maine.

The Star does not like to bicker with the Advertiser on any point. It looks on that paper as an old friend and as one that, in the main, sets an example of the best journalism. But the Advertiser's idea that no harm may be done to the news by "making it more readable" argues an omniscience on the part of the desk man who handles it which no mortal possesses. Hence the frequency of ridiculous assumptions in so-called telegraphic news, the accuracy of which ought to be subject to no doubt or suspicion. No paper can afford to "embellish" such matter. If explanations or expansions are required, a footnote will afford a means. But the telegrams themselves ought to be printed as the Associated Press sends them, excepting the connecting words and initials, which the Press omits to save cable charges.

It is becoming the custom now when big news is on to pay no attention to any other version of it than the Star's, the other afternoon paper being as deep in the mud as the Advertiser is in the mire. "There's a reason."

TWO STRINGS TO ITS BOW.

The Advertiser dissents editorially from the Star's view of the situation in the Board of Supervisors and cordially agrees with it locally. See these two versions, the first the editorial one.

The Star, while resenting the proposal that the supervisors should undertake to legislate themselves into road department bosses has assumed that the objection to the ordinance is that it removes Road Supervisor Wilder from office and is being fought by the mayor on that account. This is exactly what Mayor Fern has tried to make plain that he is not doing. He has announced in his veto message that he would not attempt to hold the position for a Democrat if the supervisors would pass an ordinance centralizing the responsibility for the road work in any responsible official, making that official responsible to the board, but in such a position that he could not be interfered with for political purposes.

Now the version in the local news columns of the same paper: Murray believes that the ordinance by its passage renders all positions of road supervisors vacant by its provisions,

Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

My garden is sickly, and littered with wrecks; the beans wilted quickly, and passed in their checks. The sight, it is saddish; the cabbage is dead; the onion and radish lie cold in their bed. IN THE The night zephyrs whistle o'er wreck and decay, and GARDEN only the thistle is blooming today. My strenuous labors this garden has known, while indolent neighbors looked on with a groan. I said: "I'll be eating fine succulent sass, while those men are treating their stomachs to grass." They said: "You may hoe, sir, and dig till you're sore, but we from the grocer will purchase our store." I slugged and lambasted the weeds with my hoe; my work was all wasted, and I'm full of woe. My garden is dreary as Sidon or Tyre, and oh, I am weary, while twanging my lyre! And this is the moral for others who fail to cultivate sorrel and onions and kale: A man needs some training his task to pursue, or he'll be complaining, disgusted and blue.

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WALT MASON.

and that appointments will have to be made to all by the board.

Mayor Fern states that Wilder cannot be replaced until he resigns or is discharged, and he says that as he appointed him, he will neither ask for his resignation nor discharge him.

There is where the parties to the controversy stand, and the next move is being watched with interest.

It is needless for the Advertiser to explain these divergences to the Star, but it might properly do so to its readers.

Senator Works never fails on a public occasion to say that Christian Science saved his son from a drunkard's grave. As the son is a practicing lawyer in Los Angeles, and is not seeking that kind of notoriety, he has turned to the same agency to stop the old gentleman from running at the mouth. The latter's malady has reached the point where he even took pains to enlighten the United States Senate the other day about his son's former infirmities. Since Peffer of Kansas left the upper house there has been no freak there equal to John D. Works.

A junior association of stamp collectors would be a good thing. A young stamp collector can learn more geography from his fad than he can from any scheme of study in the schools.

After the next city and county election let's all take a turn at good government as distinguished from party government.

Just to pass away the time between revolutions the Mexicans are going on strikes.

Let us all pray for rain. There ought to be some way to get the streets clean.

Some of those European powers don't like their Morocco binding.

Hail, King of Palmyra Island!

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

TREASURER CONKLING (writing from New York)—I spend most of my time in the bath tub, and look after weather bureau street kiosks, even if the bond issue in the intervals. It does register a false temperature hope never to deserve any punishment like this again. The tropics for mine!

HENRY O'SULLIVAN—There are several tons of old books scattered about in the attic of the capitol, which formerly had a place in the King's library. Most of them are official reports, and some are probably valuable reference works. I hope when we get our new library building that a place can be found for them.

WEATHER OBSERVER STOCKMAN—Why do people kick about the weather bureau street kiosks, even if it does register a false temperature by ten or fifteen degrees too much? They ought to read The Star's account of weather conditions all over the mainland, where the official records, taken usually at the top of high buildings, have been showing 100 degrees over all—and this with a very humid atmosphere—and be exceedingly thankful. Hawaii is the most comfortable place in America and you don't have to look at a thermometer to find it out, either.

AUSTRALIA URGED TO GO INTO THE BEET SUGAR BUSINESS

SYDNEY, June 17.—Mr. Josiah T. Fielding is an American citizen—and very proud of the fact. But Australian interest in him lies chiefly in this—that he has come to explain to the authorities that they are "missing the bus sixty times in an hour" (so he phrased it) by neglecting to avail themselves of the splendid opportunities afforded in the Commonwealth of growing beet sugar on a portion of our vast area of unoccupied lands. Incidentally—and he does not seek to hide the fact—he is the agent for a firm that manufactures the whole of the machinery required in this industry. So that the Government—either State or Federal—has only to say the word, and Mr. Fielding will "fix them up right away" with the means of fighting the alleged sugar monopoly.

"I have only been in Sydney two days," Mr. Fielding explained, "yet I am informed on excellent authority that the supply of sugar to this continent is controlled by one company. Also, I have heard that your politicians are opposed to monopolies, especially when they control the necessities of life. Sugar is a necessary of life. Taking the whole of the United States and the average daily quantum consumed is in excess of one and one-half pounds for each individual. Well, I will admit that Americans indulge more largely than most other people in candies, but the statistics show that Great Britain follows very closely behind the United States in that respect. Are Australians going to allow one company to fix the price of such an important commodity? I try in Europe has, I admit, been set

ed by sugar bounties, but under the recent sugar convention the industry can not now be given a greater advantage than half a crown a cwt."

Have you satisfied yourself that beet sugar will grow in Australia?

"Where the red beet will grow the sugar beet will flourish," he replied. "Isn't the sugar beet red?" asked the reporter.

"No," said Mr. Fielding. "It is white; in fact, it looks very much like the parsnip."

"Is much beet-sugar in use?"

"Certainly. One-half of the world's visible supply of sugar is beet-sugar. More beet-sugar is consumed in England than cane-sugar. It is a keen struggle. One of the most fascinating agricultural problems of the day is, which will eventually lead in supplying the world with sugar, the tall cane—it may be anything from half-a-dozen to a score of feet high—or the lowly beet, which is not even a single foot long, and frequently not a couple of pounds in weight. The sugar factories can extract a larger percentage of sugar from beet than from cane; but then the cane, when well-grown, produces more sugar to the acre. Raw beet-sugar has not the sweetening power of raw cane-sugar, but when refined the two sugars are absolutely indistinguishable. Of course, in Australia most of the sugar you consume is cane-sugar, but in England four out of every five pounds of sugar was extracted from beet. There is no doubt whatever of Australia being able to grow a beet crop with a sufficiently high sugar percentage, and in the recently issued report of the National Sugar Beet Council is clearly shown that all that is required for establishing a profitable industry is the capital, coupled with careful organization and technical experience."

EXECUTRIX'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

The undersigned having been appointed executrix under the will of Nathaniel Rudd, deceased, hereby gives notice to all creditors of said Nathaniel Rudd, to present their claims to her, at the office of Magoon & Weaver, duly authenticated, and with proper vouchers if any exist, even if the claim be secured by mortgage on real estate, within six months from this date, or they will be forever barred.

ELIZABETH JANE WEBSTER,
Executrix of the Will of Nathaniel Rudd.
Dated, Honolulu, July 10, 1911.

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Kaimuki, 13th, 2 B. R. 35.00

Unfurnished.

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